MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Draft *National Water Program Strategy: Response to Climate Change*
Request for Comments

FROM: Benjamin H. Grumbles
Assistant Administrator

TO: Interested Parties

The National Water Program has developed a draft strategy addressing the impacts of climate change on water programs and proposing a range of response actions. I am writing to ask for your comments on the draft *Strategy*.

The draft *National Water Program Strategy: Response to Climate Change* is an initial effort by the National Water Program to identify potential impacts of climate change for clean water and drinking water programs and define actions to respond to these impacts, which may include:

- increases in certain water pollution problems;
- changes to availability of drinking water supplies; and
- significant collective impacts on coastal areas.

The draft *Strategy* proposes 46 specific actions that the National Water Program will take to respond appropriately to climate change in topic areas including adaptation, research, mitigation, and education. Only those actions which can be initiated in FY 2008 or 2009 with an assumption of level funding are included in the draft *Strategy*.

The draft *Strategy* is the product of a workgroup made up of senior water program managers from headquarters and regional offices and senior managers from the EPA Office of Air and Radiation and the Office of Research and Development.

The draft *Strategy* is available at http://www.epa.gov/water/climatechange. The comment period will close 60 days from the date of this memorandum. Comments should be sent to: Attention: National Water Program Draft Climate Change Strategy, Office of Water, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mail Code 4101M, Washington, D.C. 20460 or may be e-mailed to Water_Climate_Change@epa.gov.

I look forward to working with you on this important effort.

Attachment: DRAFT *National Water Program Strategy: Response to Climate Change*